

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 DODE-00 /054 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:DSKINNEY

APPROVED BY EUR:LBLAINGEN

P:PMARTINEZ

C:RHOPPER (SUBSTANCE)

S/S: FVORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201143

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O 11652: GDS

TAGS: GR, TU

SUBJECT: EXERCISE PHIBLEX 2-7T

1. A US AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISE (PHIBLEX) IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUNDAY (15 AUGUST) AT VITAKA, GREECE, NEAR KIPARISSIA ON THE IONIAN SIDE OF THE PELOPONESUS. THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL SUCH EXERCISES DURING THE YEAR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PHIBLEX 2-7T INVOLVES A 6TH FLEET AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON AND EMBARKED MARINES (APPROXIMATELY FIVE SHIPS AND 1700 MARINES). NO OTHER ALLIED NATIONS ARE PARTICIPATING BUT GREEK OBSERVERS WILL BE PRESENT. THE UNITS WILL CONDUCT AN UNOPPOSED TRANSIT, AN AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT LANDING, MANEUVERS ASHORE, AND RE-CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBARKATION. NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT, ARTILLERY, AND

CLOSE AIR SUPPORT WILL BE SIMULATED. THERE WILL BE NO LIVE FIRING AND NO SIMULATED USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. A BALANCING PHIBLEX EXERCISE INVOLVING TURKEY IS SCHEDULED FOR ABOUT A MONTH FROM NOW AS ITS CANCELLATION DATE HAS ALREADY PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

2. PHIBLEX'S ARE US EXERCISES WITHOUT A NATO STAMP. THERE IS A NATO EXERCISE "DISPLAY DETERMINATION" IN SEPTEMBER WHICH WILL INVOLVE A CONVOY TO TURKEY AND A COMMAND POST EXERCISE IN EASTERN TURKEY.

3. A PRESS RELEASE NORMALLY WOULD BE ISSUED A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXERCISES BUT THE USG DECIDED AGAINST AN ACTIVE PRESS POLICY. AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE ON JULY 14, AND WE KNOW OF NO REACTION ON THE PART OF TURKEY.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADORS KUBISCH'S AND MACOMBER'S VIEWS ON PROCEEDING WITH PHIBLEX 2-7T, EXPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AEGEAN.

KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EXERCISES, MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE201143  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DSKINNEY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** I  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 NOV 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 NOV 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXERCISE PHIBLEX 2-7T  
**TAGS:** MPOL, GR, TU  
**To:** ATHENS ANKARA NATO BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006